



Community UCC

We're worth our words

Welcoming Progressive Community

Vibrant Messengers of Hope



Champaign, Illinois

Word Made Flesh: Liberating Narratives of Shame, week 5
Twenty-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C

October 2, 2022

Thoughts Before Worship—

In declaring ourselves an "Open and Affirming Church", we build upon our heritage as an open church whose ministry of peace and justice calls us to publicly reject discrimination in any of its forms. At this point in history we speak especially to our gay, lesbian, and bisexual brothers and sisters. Our divine mission is to love, affirm, and actively support all persons. In this way, the two great commandments, to love God with all our souls, hearts, and minds and our neighbors as ourselves, will continue to be the central precept of our growing spiritual lives. Community United Church of Christ welcomes all persons to join its community of faith in worship and service without any exception of race, ethnic background, religious heritage, sexual orientation or life condition.

-Passed by Community UCC, Champaign, IL at the January 29, 1995, Annual Meeting

If you have requests to add to the prayer list (a public document), go to community-ucc.org/pray (a Google Form), or scan the QR code found in the bulletin or there are prayer cards on the table at the back of the sanctuary that you may fill out and hand to the usher.

Gathering Music

Aaron Ames

Call to Worship

As we enter worship this morning, we remember the stories that have been told to us:

You are not fit for this.

You cannot have the love you seek.

You cannot come in.

But, in You, the Great I-Am,

We are fit, and loved, and welcome.

Forgive our Forgetting.

Remind us we are Yours.

As we gather around the font this day, nurture us, we pray:

God, who made me in Your image, teach me to love myself as You love me.

God, who made me in Your image,

allow me to show that image to the world.

God, who made me in Your image,

help me to see Your image in all those I meet.

God, who made me in Your image, may all your children know they are beloved. Amen.

We welcome you to our service this morning. Celebrating the diversity of creation, Community United Church welcomes persons of any age, ability, race, gender identity, sexual orientation or life condition. May the Divine Presence become real to you through this time of worship. We hope you come back!

Note: *Our worship services are live streamed. If you prefer not to have the back of your head seen on the live stream worship please do not sit in the first seven pews on the left side (organ/piano) of the sanctuary.*

Note 2: *The congregation responds to the liturgy parts in **BOLD***

*Everyone is invited to stand in body or in spirit.

Opening Prayer (adapted from Lutherans for Full Inclusion)

Creator God, we marvel in awe of the expansiveness of your creation. Your margins of diversity are boundless, and for that, we thank you. Each of our beloved LGBTQIA+ siblings are beautifully and wonderfully made, all in Your image. Teach us to love people, just as they are, and embrace their identity fully, as you have embraced us.

*Hymn

Gather Us In

Songbook 55 vv 1,2, 4

Text and Music by Marty Haugen, Text and Music copyright 1982 GIA Publications
One License Song # 00031, One License #A-734456

Welcome

Affirmation of Faith

Together, we affirm our faith saying:

**God, who made me in Your image, teach me to love myself as You love me.
God, who made me in Your image, allow me to show that image to the world.
God, who made me in Your image, help me to see Your image in all those I meet.
God, who made me in Your image, teach me to conserve and protect all Your creation.
God, who made me in Your image, bless, protect, and keep me and all Your children
safe.**

Introit

I Am Welcome

Songbook 28

Words and Music by Bryan Sirchio
www.sirchio.com

*Passing of the Peace

As we share signs of peace with one another, you are invited to either to stay in your pew and offer a wave or peace sign to those around you, or to move from your space and exchange signs of peace with one another. As a church, we recognize that some folks may want to refrain from shaking hands. Respect one another's lead in this as we pass the peace. Peace be with you!

Children's Moment

Anthem

Give Me Jesus

CUCC Choir

Arr. L.L. Fleming
One License Song # 54470 , One License #A-734456

Call to Prayer

After the sermon, we will offer up our joys and concerns. Your prayer requests will be offered aloud. Whether you are sitting here in the sanctuary, or worshipping with us remotely, you are invited to add your joys and concerns to the prayer list: go to community-ucc.org/pray (a Google Form), or scan the QR code found here or there are prayer cards on the table at the back of the sanctuary that you may fill out and hand to the usher.

Prelude to Scripture

Whether we take what is written in the Bible as fact, metaphor, myth, or story, let us listen now for the meaning it might hold for us on this day.

Sacred Reading from the Original Testament

1 Samuel 18:1-4

¹When David had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. ²Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. ³Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. ⁴Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing, and gave it to David, and his armour, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

Sacred Reading from the Original Testament

Genesis 37:3-4

³Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made

him a long robe with sleeves. ⁴But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Postlude to Scripture

Together, let us say:

May the Spirit bless us with wisdom and wonder as we ponder the meaning of these words for our lives.

*Hymn

God of Queer, Transgressive Spaces

Bulletin

Lyrics: Edward Moran, Music: Charles Crozat
Permission to use granted by Edward Moran

A Word from the Therapist

Circle of Sexuality: Sexual Identity

Rev. Jennifer Aull, LMFT & CST

Sermon

"...And Jonathan loved him as he loved his own soul"

Quiet Meditation

Call to Offering

God has shown us the meaning of generosity in the beautiful diversity of creation, in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ, in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit. God has abundantly blessed us and called us to be a community that honors each other, serves with joy, shares our love and material possessions. Let us rejoice in what we have been given and in what is ours to give. We are invited to contribute to our ministry of CUCC, or to the Neighbors in Need Fund. The Neighbors in Need Church Fund supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. All offerings put into the globes will go to the Neighbors in Need Fund. Offerings in the offering plates will support the mission and ministry of this local church or as noted on the envelope/check. In order to give, please go to www.community-ucc.org and click donate, or if you are worshipping here in the sanctuary, offering may be placed in the plates when you depart. Let us ask for God's blessing over what we offer.

Giver of every good and perfect gift, we marvel at your love and care for us and for all that you have made. Help us by your Holy Spirit to lift our hearts to you, to taste and see that you are good, and to live lives of abundant generosity, full of gratitude and grace, through Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Take, O Take Me as I Am

Songbook 42

Words: John L. Bell, Music: Scottish melody, Arr. John L. Bell
One License Song # 00075, One License #A-734456

Commissioning of the Community

*Hymn

In the Midst of New Dimensions

NCH 391 vv 1, 2, 5

Julian Rush, Arr. The New Century Hymnal
copyright 1985 Julian B. Rush

Benediction

Benediction Response

Peace and Love

CUCC Choir

Arr. Noel Dexter, Jamaican traditional
Let the Peoples Sing Vol 1 Sacred Choral Music of the Caribbean Copyright © 2002 Augsburg Fortress

Postlude

Aaron Ames

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God of Queer, Transgressive Spaces

Edward Moran, 2007; alt. 2019

CONVERSE
Charles C. Converse 1868

1. God of queer, trans-gres-sive spa - ces: la - vish man-ger, emp-ty tomb;
2. Thanks to God for grave dis - or - der: shroud and sor-row fall un - done;
3. Stone walls shall not be our pri - son, I - ron bars shall not en - cage.

wine - dark loaves and pre - cious gra - ces, bend our ba-ren lives to bloom.
East - er gar-ments, at His or - der, swad - dle Her be - lov - ed One.
Christ trans - fig - ured, Christ now ri - sen: where the fren-zy, where the rage?

God's own de - vi-ance is Je - sus: born of vir- gin, Word made flesh;
Broth - ers bind ye to each oth - er, sis - ters, too, and have no shame.
Shed - ding clouds of flesh and gen - der, gar - ments shin-ing like the sun.

dead and bur - ied, still he ri - ses! What ab - nor - mal world - li - ness!
Sing with God, our Fa ther - Mo - ther love that dares now speak its name.
At the cross-roads of sur - ren - der. Bod - ies be - ings breathe as one. (to stanza 4)

Serving Today

Ministers: The Community of Community UCC
Preaching & Presiding: Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser
Liturgist: Susan Pawlicki

Organist: Aaron Ames **Singers:** Kathy Lee, CUCC Choir
Audio/Video: David Gerstenecker, Marilou Hinrichs, John Osborne, Sean Walker

Community United Church of Christ Staff

Pastor: Rev. Leah Robberts-Mosser leah@community-ucc.org	Director of Music Ministries: Kathy Lee music@community-ucc.org
Director of Youth Ministries: Open	Organist: Aaron Ames, Interim Organist
Commissioned Minister of Congregational Health: Linda Morgan lindamorgan@sbcglobal.net	Office Manager: Carla Rush info@community-ucc.org
Faith Community Nurse Johnalene Radek johnalene.radek@carle.com	
Parish Associate: Rev. Connie Bandy connie@community-ucc.org	

Your Ministry Team Leaders

Moderator: Erin Ewoldt* Past Moderator: Elizabeth Shack* Incoming Moderator: Johnalene Radek* Clerk: Jeff Radek* Pastoral Relations Committee: Cara Finnegan Personnel Committee: Anna Barnes	Children & Family: Julie McClure* and Alison Anders Finance: Roger Wade* (treasurer), David Willcox (financial secretary)
Community Building: Peg Wade* and Randy Musser	Identity: Keri Evans* and Ramona Oswald Mission: Jeanne Ward* and Kristy Brownfield
- Care Team: Marilou Hinrichs	Sound & Ethical Practices (SEP): (Open) and (Open)
- Prayer Shawls: Elena Kasper	- Buildings & Grounds: Tom Ward and Matthew Hart
- Meal Train: Jennifer Robbennolt	- Contracts & Insurance: Andrew McClure
- Driver's Ministry: John Osborne	UCC Campus Ministry Liaison: Ilsa Kantola*
- Healing Music Ministry: Marilou Hinrichs	Worship: Susan Pawlicki* and Tina Cowsert
- Card Ministry: Peg Wade	- Sound Coordinator: Roger Wade
- Visitor's Ministry: (Open)	
- Health and Wellness Team: (Open)	
- Hospitality Team: Randy Musser and Peg Wade*	

*denotes Church Life Board Member

United Church Foundation (UCC Campus Ministry)

Director of Campus Ministry: Reverend Nate Brantingham | nate@ucccampusministry.org
www.community-ucc.org/campus-ministry

Community United Church of Christ
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